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ANNUAL REPORT

— OF THE —

TREASURER, SELECTMEN,

— AUDITORS AND —

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

— OF THE —

TOWN OF BOSCAWEN,

— FOR THE —

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1881.

CONTOOCOOK, N. H.:
HOPKINTON TIMES JOB PRINT.
1881.

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STATE LIBRARY**

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

EXPENDITURES.

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

Paid by order on the Treasurer.

1880.

March	24	Isaac K. Gage, balance	
		of precinct tax for 1879	\$25 00
April	2	Ira M. Colby, sheep kill-	
		ed by dogs.....	9 72
	10	Annis Kilburn, scraper.	5 00
	22	O. A. Towne, town re-	
		ports	27 50
	22	G. P. Titcomb, records	
		of death.....	25
	30	Samuel A. Morrill, iron	
		bar lost at bridge....	1 75
May	8	Thomas Eastman, sheep	
		killed by dogs	8 10
	13	James W. J. Weir, cow	
		for F. Plummer.....	25 00
	27	Samuel Choate, sheep	
		killed by dogs.....	4 32
	27	James W. Roby, sheep	
		killed by dogs	1 62

May	27	Folsom Bros., sheep killed by dogs.....	11 61	
	31	G. W. Fisher, sheep killed by dogs	14 58	
June	5	Charles N. Butler, notifying town officers.....	9 73	
	12	J. P. Hubbard, tax bills.	2 00	
	25	E. E. Graves, return of births and deaths ...	9 00	
	25	E. E. Graves, overtax on savings banks, 1879...	9 94	
	25	John C. Pearson, overtax on savings banks, 1879	17 22	
July	6	I. K. Gage, precinct tax, 1880	75 00	
Aug.	5	E. C. Morse, digging graves	8 00	
	5	N. S. Webster, watering trough.....	3 00	
	5	Harry A. Williams, bounty on hawk	20	
	28	Joseph Crowell, work in cemetery	5 00	
	28	C. A. Folsom, bounty on hawks	40	
Sept.	2	Harry A. Williams, bounty on hawk.....	20	
	25	Harry A. Williams, bounty on hawks	60	
Oct.	16	I. K. Gage, precinct tax, 1880	75 00	
	23	E. C. Morse, digging graves.....	10 00	
Dec.	9	E. C. Eastman, invoice books, &c.	5 30	
	10	Torrent Engine Co.	250 00	\$615 04

Dec.	11 J. W. Roby, digging graves.....	\$2 00
1881.		
January	6 Isaac K. Gage, precinct tax, 1880.....	75 00
	17 E. C. Morse, digging graves	12 00
	21 C. M. & A W. Rolfe, lumber for Torrent Engine Co., delivered 1879	1 45
Feb.	2 Roswell Pritchard, digging graves	2 00
	12 John P. Hubbard, tax claims bought.....	252 67
	12 John P. Hubbard, discount on taxes, 1880.....	320 26
	12 R Butler, Esq., legal advice	25 00
	16 Richard Pevere, watering trough.....	3 00
	16 L. T. Boyce, watering trough.....	3 00
	19 C. E. Chadwick, school books for poor, stationery &c.....	7 00
	19 Isaac K. Gage, watering trough.....	3 00
	25 George E. Kimball, sundries for engine house	10 05
	25 S. G. Noyes, printing for 1878-1881	21 43
	25 S. G. Noyes, school books for the poor.....	12 56

25	J. C. Pearson, horse hire and expenses.....	7 75	
25	Frank L. Gerrish, board of selectmen.....	8 00	
26	George C. Hale, digging graves.....	2 00	
26	J. H. Gill, fuel, lights, care and repairs on Town Hall.....	12 75	
			\$780 92
			<hr/>
			\$1,395 96

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

1880.

March	24	Paid Isaac K. Gage, lighting twin bridges	\$30 96
April	5	*F. L. Burbank & Son, lumber	129 46
	7	* A. G. Foster, work on bridge	12 00
	10	W. C. Marden, work on road.....	6 61
	10	John F. Colby, work on road.....	2 50
	20	* N. M. Sanborn, work on bridge.....	5 00
	26	*George L. Pillsbury, work on bridge.....	25 00
	29	*N. M. Sanborn, work on bridge.....	10 00
	30	*Samuel A. Morrill, work on bridge.....	40 00
May	1	*Frank Peverly, work on bridge	42 00

	1	Frank Peverly, lighting bridge	15 00
	7	*E. L. Childs, work on bridge and materials.	192 59
	8	*N. M. Sanborn, work on bridge	27 25
	8	*Charles Smith, work on bridge	22 50
	8	*George L. Pillsbury, work on bridge.....	37 85
	12	*John Whitaker, lumber for bridge.....	41 85
	13	*David Morrill, lumber for bridge.....	3 50
	15	*D. Arthur Brown & Co., iron work for bridge.	171 58
	15	Asa M. Gage, lumber for bridge	38 12
	19	*Foote & Morse, nails for bridge	8 03
	19	*Russ & Sullivan, lumber for bridge.....	33 18
	19	*J. C. Pearson, work on bridge	22 75
June	12	Henry Coffin, lumber and work	4 38
	19	F. L. Burbank & Son, lumber	21 20
July	6	I. K. Gage, filing saws.	1 85
Aug.	13	*U. S. & C. Express, freight on spikes	35
Sept.	2	E. B. Atkinson, work on road	9 00
	14	Frank Peverly, lighting bridge	15 00

* One-half paid by town of Canterbury. See Treasurer's Report.

Sept.	17	Paid F. L. Burbank & Son, lumber.....	55 14
Nov.	20	S. Choate, stirrupiron, bridge.....	36 50
	20	Joseph G. Eastman, lumber.....	33 54
	27	R. Sweatland, fencing.....	11 00
Dec.	20	F. L. Burbank & Son, lumber.....	24 89
	10	Joseph Eastman, road damage.....	30 00
	23	W. B. Burpee, work on road.....	1 25
	25	M. A. Pillsbury, cutting bushes.....	2 00
	25	M. A. Pillsbury, plank.....	1 75
	25	C. W. Carter, nails and spikes.....	3 11
	27	*H. K. Farnum, work on bridge.....	3 00
	31	F. L. Burbank & Son, lumber.....	2 13
	31	John Whitaker, lumber.....	2 19
1881.			
January	8	Joseph Wilson, lumber.....	12 45
Feb.	11	J. C. Gage, lumber.....	1 92
	14	C. C. Bean, work on bridge.....	50
	19	B. F. Griffen, breaking roads.....	14 11
	19	Frank L. Gerrish, breaking roads.....	12 55
	19	N. S. Webster, snowing bridge and breaking roads.....	17 22

Feb.	19	W. B. Bnrpee, breaking roads	6 45	
	19	C. W. Hardy, breaking roads	20 25	
	19	Harvey Atkinson, breaking roads	3 94	
	19	Evans & Gale, lamps, reflectors, &c	1 11	
	19	Harvey Atkinson, railing for gulf	8 75	
	25	G. W. & L. C. Whitney, breaking roads	6 37	
	25	Samuel Choate, breaking roads	2 75	
	25	John McClure, breaking roads	1 25	
	25	W. C. Marden, breaking roads	9 83	
	25	George E. Kimball, nails for bridge	\$4 00	
	25	George E. Kimball, nails for bridge	1 80	
	25	Bradley Atkinson, breaking roads	4 78	
	25	George C. Howser, breaking roads	8 15	
	26	Henry L. Ferrin, breaking roads	6 55	
	26	M. E. Hodge, breaking roads	3 85	
	26	Russ & Sullivan, lumber	5 68	
			<hr/>	\$1,330 27

SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

1880.

June	5	Paid John Shaw, aid to F. Plummer	\$6 25
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June	25	E. E. Graves, medical attendance on M. Sargent.....	11 75
	28	*Frank L. Gerrish, expenses conveying transient paupers to Canada.....	25 35
Sept.	11	John Shaw, aid to F. Plummer.....	10 00
	25	*Frank L. Gerrish, aid to Nellie Thurston.....	10 17
	25	John Shaw, aid to F. Plummer.....	6 25
Oct.	16	Samuel Choate, aid to F. Plummer.....	2 00
Dec.	11	John Shaw, aid to F. Plummer.....	10 00
	25	C. W. Carter, aid to F. Plummer.....	19 50
	25	*C. W. Carter, aid to Nellie Thurston.....	3 45
	25	*Hale Chadwick, aid to Joseph Chase.....	2 28
	29	*Mrs. George C. Lord, aid to F. B. Jennis' family.....	11 00
1881.			
January	8	Joseph Wilson, wood for Smith Emmons, 1879.....	2 50
	8	*H. E. Emery, medical attendance on Charles Davis.....	28 00
	8	*H. E. Emery, medical attendance on F. B. Jennis' family.....	7 75

Jan	21	John Shaw, aid to F. Plummer	6 25
	21	*J. P. Sanders & Son, aid to Joseph Chase..	7 50
Jan.	21	*J. P. Sanders & Son, aid to William Smart,	\$3 00
	21	*J. A. Coburn, coffin etc. for Nellie Thurston..	12 00
	21	*J. A. Coburn, do. Mrs J. Chase	8 00
	21	*J. A. Coburn, do. Jenness Child.....	4 50
	21	*J. A. Coburn, do. William Smart's child...	11 50
Feb.	1	*C. E. Chadwick, aid furnished Nellie Thurston Aug. 25, 1880...	85
	1	*E. E. Graves, medical attendance on Nellie Thurston.....	25 75
	1	*E. E. Graves, medical attendance on Jenness family	1 50
	12	*Geo. E. Kimball, support of Wm. Smart..	13 70
	12	*Geo. E. Kimball, support of Kate Johnson.	21 97
	12	*Geo. E. Kimball, support of Charles Davis	51 67
	12	*Geo. E. Kimball, funeral for Mary Hanson..	11 25
	12	*Geo. E. Kimball, aid N. M. Sanborn.....	26 00
	12	*Geo. E. Kimball, aid F. B. Jencess.....	40 00

12 *Isaac K. Gage, support
of Charles Davis.... 75

*Paid by County.

19 A. G. Kimball, aid to
transient paupers.... 3 00

25 E. E. Graves, medical at-
tendance on F. Plum-
mer's family..... 1 25

25 Geo. E. Kimball, wood for
W, F. Chase, 1879... 5 00

25 Geo. E. Kimball, aid to F.
Plummer..... 47 05

25 W. P. Abbott, aid to F.
Plummer..... 5 00

\$463 74

SCHOOLS.

1880.

June 21, paid, F. P. Atkinson, Dist.
No. 6,..... \$43 00

29, W. P. Abbott, Dist. No. 2... 20 00

July 1, Joseph Chandler, Dist.
No. 7,..... 325 00

13, Joseph G. Eastman, Dist.
No. 5,..... 60 00

Sept. 1, Ebenezer Moody Dist. No.
4 92 00

Oct. 16, I. P. Atkinson, Dist. No.
6 38 00

27, C. E. Chadwick, Dist. No.
1 125 00

Nov. 4, Daniel Flint, Dist. No. 3... 100 00

Feb. 10 Joseph G. Eastman, Dist.
No. 5..... 77 00

25 F. P. Atkinson, Dist. No.
6 38 00

1881.

Jan. 19	W. P. Abbott, Dist. No. 2	41 00	
Feb. 1	Daniel Flint, Dist. No. 3	117 00	
15	C. E. Chadwick, Dist. No.		
	1	144 00	
25	Joseph Chandler, Dist. No.		
	7	178 00	
			<hr/> \$2,066 00

NOTES AND BONDS PAID.

1880.

July 2	Joseph B. Holt, note and interest	\$718 91	
3	School Dist. No. 7, Joseph Chandler, prudential Committee, note and interest	212 74	
3	Royal Choate, note and interest	154 89	
3	Town bonds Nos. 6, 12, 34, 37,	2,000 00	
3	Interest on same	120 00	
			<hr/> \$3,206 54

STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.

State tax	\$2,056 00	
County tax,	2,313 00	
		<hr/> \$4,369 00

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

1880.

Feb. 12	J. P. Hubbard, list of 1879	\$176 44	
12	J. P. Hubbard, list of 1880	41 94	
			<hr/> \$218 38

NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY TAXES WORKED OUT.

1880.

June 19	W. B. Burpee for sundry	
	persons	\$6 19
Oct. 29	Royal Choate for sundry	
	persons	7 00
Nov. 27	Henry Coffin, for sundry	
	persons	4 49

1881.

Feb. 5	W. C. Marden, for sundry	
	persons	3 63
12	W. P. Abbott, for sundry	
	persons	50
12	George C. Howser, for sun-	
	dry persons	6 50
12	B. F. Griffin, for sundry	
	persons	2 53
12	Frederick Gilman, for sun-	
	dry persons	14 05
19	B. F. Griffin, for sundry	
	persons	1 74
Feb. 19	C. W. Hardy, for sundry	
	persons	37
25	I. N. Colby, for sundry per-	
	sons	12 89
		<hr/>
		\$59 99

TOWN OFFICERS.

1880.

Apr. 2	Paid C. W. Hardy services	
	as Selectman 1879.	\$3 00
June 12	J. P. Hubbard, audit-	
	ing accounts	2 00
Oct. 2	W. A. Huntress, police	
	officer	10 00

Nov. 10	Luther Gage, services as Selectman 1879.	4 00
27	Henry C. Wade, super- visor 1879-80.....	25 00
Dec. 23	F. V. B. Garretson, School Committee.	50 00
1881.		
Jan. 15	C. J. Ellsworth, Super- visor 1879-80.....	25 00
Feb. 12	J. P. Hubbard, collect- or 1879.....	46 65
19	A. G. Kimball, police officer	15 00
19	M. E. Haines, police officer	15 00
25	C. E. Chadwick, town clerk	42 00
25	Geo. E. Kimball, town treasurer.....	50 00
25	Samuel Choate, ser- vices as Selectmen.	75 00
25	Frank L. Gerrish, do.	60 00
25	J. C. Pearson, do,....	82 00
25	J. C. Pearson, School Committee Dist. No. 7	25 00
25	Samuel Choate, super- visor	3 00
25	W. A. Huntress, police officer	5 00
25	John P. Hubbard, col- lector 1880.....	176 05
		<hr/> \$713 70

RECAPITULATION.

Miscellaneous bills	\$1,395 96	
Roads and bridges	1,330 27	
Support of paupers	463 74	
Schools	2,066 00	
Notes and bonds	3,206 54	
State and county tax	4,369 00	
Abatement of taxes	218 38	
Non-resident highway taxes worked out	59 99	
Town officers	713 70	
	<hr/>	\$13,823 58

TOWN LIABILITIES.

John Whitaker, note and interest	\$1,010 00	
Torrent Engine Co., note and inter- est	303 00	
School district No. 7, Joseph Chand- ler, Prudential Committee	243 27	
	<hr/>	\$1,556 27

ASSETS.

Tax claims bought by town	\$263 92	
Cow at F. Plumers	25 00	
Due from county, on J. Chase's acc't	17 73	
J. P. Hubbard, collection, 1875	125 24	
J. P. Hubbard, collection, 1879	33 05	
J. P. Hubbard, collection, 1880	580 62	
C. J. Chadwick, lumber	4 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,049 61
Balance against the town		\$506.66

J. C. PEARSON,
SAMUEL CHOATE,
FRANK L. GERRISH,

Selectmen and overseers of the poor of Boscawen.

The undersigned, auditors of the accounts of the treasurer and selectmen for the year 1880-81, report that they have examined the accounts and find the receipts to have been, from March 1, 1880, to March 1, 1881, \$13,770 12, and disbursements by the treasurer to have been \$13,770 14, with outstanding orders drawn by the selectmen, ~~\$213 27~~, as appears by their accounts of \$53 39; all which accounts are properly vouched and correctly cast.

N. BUTLER,

J. P. HUBBARD,

Auditors.

REPORT

OF THE

Treasurer of the Town of Boscawen,

FROM MARCH 1880, TO MARCH 1881.

The treasurer charges himself with the following receipts to cash received:

1880.		
March 13,	Of former Treasurer	\$126 58
	Of town of New Hampton.	175 00
	20, Of J. P. Hubbard on his	
	collection for 1879 . . .	100 00
April 2,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his	
	collection for 1878 . . .	104 10
	2, Of J. P. Hubbard on his	
	collection for 1879 . . .	225 00
	17, Of J. P. Hubbard on his	
	collection for 1878 . . .	37 26
	17, Of J. P. Hubbard on his	
	collection for 1879 . . .	172 00

April	24,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1879...	50 00
May	1,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1878...	13 81
	10,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1879...	225 00
	31,	Of town of Canterbury.	400 00
June	1,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	170 00
	2,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	60 00
	3,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	40 00
	5,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	16 56
	12,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	100 00
	12,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1879...	40 00
	14,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	60 00
	18,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	60 00
	18,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	80 00
	22,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	211 64
	22,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	33 53
	23,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	240 20
	24,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	62 68
	25,	Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	89 00

June	26, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	36 85
	26, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	145 00
	28, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	183 26
	29, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	773 91
	30, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	1,106 59
	30, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	1,328 18
July	1, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	155 00
	1, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	330 19
	1, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	504 95
	1, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	202 43
	1, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	86 66
	13, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1879...	53 59
Sept.	25, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	163 36
Oct.	13, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	162 93
Nov.	2, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	269 07
Dec.	11, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	300 08
	14, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	337 30
	16, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	40 00

Dec.	20, Town of Canterbury...	32 03
	23, Of C. N. Clough for bridge timber.....	4 50
	25, Of J. P. Hubbard an his collection for 1879...	32 58
	25, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	43 55
	27, Of Selectmen of Bos- cawen	300 00
	28, Of Selectmen of Bos- cawen.....	1,000 00
	28, Of J. P. Hubbard on his collection for 1880...	100 00
	30, State Treasurer railroad tax.....	544 19
	Savings bank tax.....	690 06
	Literary fund.....	73 26
Jan.	15, J. P. Hubbard on his col- lection for 1880.....	200 00
Feb.	4, Merrimack county.....	310 13
	11, J. P. Hubbard on his col- lection for 1880.....	140 57
	12, J. P. Hubbard on his col- lection for 1879.....	475 76
	12, J. P. Hubbard on his col- lection for 1880.....	380 17
	14, Town of Canterbury....	2 71
	26, J. P. Hubbard on his col- lection for 1878.....	76 28
	26, Selectmen of Boscawen	243 27
		<hr/> \$13,770 12

The Treasurer discharges himself as follows :

By payment of bonds and coupons due,.....	\$2,120 00
Payment of orders drawn by Selectmen numbered from 1 to 184 inclusive.....	11,650 12
	<hr/> \$13,770 12

GEO. E. KIMBALL,
Town Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

DISTRICT No. 1.—(PLAIN.)

C. E. Chadwick, prudential committee. Amount of school money, —. Spring term, Miss Esther D. Gill, teacher. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$24; length of term, 10 weeks; number of scholars, 25; average attendance, 21; number of visitors and citizens, 31.

ROLL OF HONOR. Herbert L. Brown Mabel A. Carter, Florence C. Garretson, Jessie B. Garretson, Mary F. Huntress, Ida V. Perry.

Fall term, Jas. H. Jackman, teacher. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$32; length of term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 24; average attendance; number of visits by parents and citizens, 22.

ROLL OF HONOR. Charlie H. Carter, Mabel A. Carter.

Winter term, Jas. H. Jackman, teacher. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$33 33; length of term, 12 weeks; number of scholars, 24; average attendance, 20; number of visits by parents and citizens, 17.

ROLL OF HONOR. Mabel A. Carter.

DISTRICT No. 2.—(NORTH WATER STREET.)

George S. Watson, Prudential Committee. Miss Ida Silver, teacher both terms. Amount of school money, \$79 00. Wages of teacher per month, including board, spring term, \$16; winter term, \$20; length of term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 8; average attendance, 6; visits by parents and citizens, first term, 18, second term, 20.

ROLL OF HONOR. Cora E. Hale; second term, Preston W. Champin, Ross E. Smith.

DISTRICT No. 3. (GULF.)

Daniel Flint, Prudential Committee. Amount school money, \$217. Spring term, Minnie V. Smith, teacher. Wages per month, including board, \$23; length of term 10, weeks; number of scholars, 23; average attendance, 19; number of visits, 32.

ROLL OF HONOR. Mabel Colby, Henry Colby, Lucy Raymond, Jessie Raymond, Nettie M. Sargent, Joseph Dullitte, Lewis Dullitte.

The fall and winter terms were taught by Miss Mary R. Webster. Fall term, 10 weeks. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$26; number of scholars, 27; average attendance, 25; number of visits, 25.

ROLL OF HONOR. Sadie L. Adams, Jessie S. Raymond, Lucy M. Raymond, Nettie M. Sargent, Frank G. Sargent.

Winter term. 12 weeks; wages of teacher per month, including board, \$30; number of scholars, 21; average attendance, 19; number of visits, 15.

DISTRICT No. 4.—(HIGH STREET.)

Amount of school money, \$95 36. Ebenezer Moody, Prudential Committee. Miss Georgianna Chandler, teacher, both terms; each term 8 weeks; wages of teacher per month, including board, \$52; number of scholars, 4; average atten-

dance, 3; number of visits, parents and citizens, 6.

ROLL OF HONOR. Luther Marden.

DISTRICT NO. 5.—(NORTH BOSCAWEN.)

Joseph G. Eastman, Prudential Committee. Amount of school money, not given. Miss Minnie L. Morse, teacher, both terms; wages of teacher, per month, including board, \$21; summer term, 10 weeks; fall term 13 weeks; number of scholars, 15; average attendance, 14; number of visits by parents and citizens, 28.

DISTRICT NO. 6.—(SOUTH WATER STREET.)

F. P. Atkinson, Prudential Committee. Miss Jennie E. Ordway, teacher during the year. Amount of school money, \$119; wages of teacher, per month, including board, \$20; the three terms include 27 weeks; number of visits by parents and citizens, 32.

ROLL OF HONOR. First term, Albert Hardy, Alice Hardy.

Second term, Ava V. Griffin, Alice Hardy.

Third term, Minnie Atkinson, Alice Hardy, George Fisher, Minnie Fisher.

GENERAL SURVEY.

The practical results of the instruction in the schools, under my supervision during the year, have been commendable.

The prudential committees, in most cases, have been judicious in the selection of teachers.

Not deeming it profitable to rehearse individual excellency or defects, affording room for invidious distinctions or fulsome praise, it may be said that the teachers, in the main, have discharged their duties faithfully and efficiently.

Many parents and citizens have manifested unusual interest by frequent visits during the terms, as well as at the examination.

OUR DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

It is about impossible to attach too great importance to our common school system. The prominence, deservedly belonging to Boscawen, among the towns of the state, and of New England, is directly attributable to the fact that the church and school house were the first public buildings erected by our ancestors. Many have gone from us, to modify and control for good, other towns and communities, whose only educational advantages were enjoyed in our District Schools. To these inalienable prerogatives the poor are accessible as well as the rich. Parents should regard the district schools as more valuable than mines of wealth distributed through the town.

Citizens of Boscawen, as the coming generations are so largely dependent upon our District Schools for their equipment to efficiently and creditably discharge the duties which will devolve upon them during life, let us lift the standard whenever there is a possibility for improvement.

An earnest and hearty co-operation on the part of school officers, teachers, parents and scholars will impart a prodigious impulse to all educational interests in the town.

THE SELECTION OF TEACHERS.

The selection of teachers qualified for the work, *with aptness to teach*, is of incalculable importance. As the duty of selection devolves upon your Prudential Committees, too much wisdom and caution cannot be exercised in their appointment; nor can they act with too great prudence in securing those whose natural aptitude, as well as scholarly attainments, fit them to teach. It may be laid down as a law that the standard of the school and the future of the children depend largely upon the ability and character of the teacher. Seek then for sterling moral worth and Christian character as indispensable in a good teacher. *A tre-*

inendous responsibility is assumed by your Prudential Committees. Most any one can teach, but good teachers are by no means plenty.

We must have scholarship ; and yet some fine scholars are the poorest excuses for teachers. There must be generalship, which commands, inspires and kindles enthusiasm for work and high attainments, or else the teacher is a failure. A teacher, before employed, should be known to possess in some degree a combination of very rare elements.

Do not be hasty in selection ; *obtain the best and retain them as long as they are the best.* This will prevent a frequent change of teachers, which I am constrained to say is as productive of evil as any one cause which I have encountered during the year.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND APPOINTMENTS.

As a rule the school buildings are in fair condition, but a generous sum expended in furnishing first-class blackboards, maps, charts, globes and other school appliances would be an investment paying not only yearly, but daily dividends, such as no mathematics can compute.

Though not legitimately within my specified sphere, still the County Farm and the welfare of its inmates, lie so near your hearts that you will be interested in knowing that a school of about 20 pupils has been taught in the chapel of the main building during a large portion of the year, with many signs of hope and promise.

Boscawen, March 1, 1881.

F. V. B. GARRETSON,
Superintending School Committee.

DISTRICT No. 7, FISHERVILLE.

In accordance with a time honored custom, your committee submits his annual report :

The condition of the schools during the year has been

on the whole satisfactory and the progress made very commendable. In the Grammar department, Mr. Charles A. Caldwell, from Cornell University, was the teacher for the summer and fall term, and the winter term has been in charge of Mr. L. J. Rundlett, a member of the senior class of Dartmouth College, and is still in session.

These gentlemen have given their best efforts for the school, and have succeeded in awakening in the minds of the scholars a good degree of interest. They are both practical men and thoroughly understand their business, and it is a pleasure to say "well done" to them as teachers. Miss ~~Ellen~~ F. Stone, for so long a teacher of the primary department, has held on the even tenor of her way through the entire year, kindly and patiently working on with the ~~large~~ number of scholars in her care, with much to show as the result. There are certain facts in connection with these schools and this school district which should not be lost sight of and which should receive the serious consideration of the people. In the first place it is a fact that considerably more than half of the school money of the town comes to this district, and must be used here, and for the purpose for which it is by law appropriated, and no other disposition can ever be made of it. Now, only five per cent. of it can be used for repairs, and this sum should be carefully set aside each year for this purpose, so that all needed repairs may be made from this fund, and it will surely be adequate for such demands, and all the rest applied each year to the use of the schools. It is a fact that the district already has several hundred dollars at interest, which is not right. This money is raised by law for a specific purpose and should be applied so that those whom it is designed to benefit should have their due. It is true we have weeks enough of school each year, all that scholars can endure. But the remedy will not come in this direction. Make the schools better by providing more teachers. There should

be a teacher of music, who could come in say twice a week and teach the children to sing by note, to learn the first principles of music correctly. Then drawing should be taught by a well qualified teacher, and perchance your child or mine may be awakened to a new life and be enabled to make the most of some latent spark of genius which might otherwise never come to light. Then too penmanship should be taught by some person who, term after term, would teach the *same* system, and so the scholars would come in time to have system in their writing which can never be attained while changing teacher almost every term, as each teacher has a system of his own, and so the result is the scholars have no thorough knowledge of this branch of their education, but only a confused mingling of this or that theory. The higher mathematics should ~~only~~ be allowed in these schools and if any scholars are sufficiently advanced so that they can study the languages to any advantage they should have the opportunity. And in this and other ways in which the efficiency and value of these schools may be increased, the scholar may go out well fitted for business or to enter the scientific departments of any of our colleges.

I respectfully ~~ask~~ ask you to consider well these suggestions and not put them aside as unworthy of your attention, and say the schools as we have them are good enough for us.

Here are the means already at hand. We only raise what the law obliges us to, and will continue to, and should not we avail ourselves of the full benefit of this most fortunate condition in which we find ourselves.

Perhaps there is no other school district in this state so well supplied with money to carry out such a plan as has been so briefly outlined. It is much to be desired that there be a full attendance at the annual school meeting soon to be held, and that such instructions be given the Prudential

Committee that we may enter on a new era of prosperity in these schools; and as we see our children growing up around, we may have the satisfaction of knowing that they are very fortunate in the privilege of obtaining a good education almost without "money or price."

The whole number of enrolled scholars in the district as shown by the Teacher's Registers, is 88. Average attendance, 70.15.

ROLL OF HONOR. Grammar. Summer and fall terms. Walter Gilman, 2 terms; William G. Mann, 2 terms; Grace M. Boyce, 2 terms, Mary L. Chadwick, 2 terms; Nellie Gilman, 2 terms; Harlan C. Pearson, Etha L. Sargent, Mabel L. Sargent, 2 terms; Lizzie Gleason, Maggie Spearman, Mary E. Knowlton, Maggie Duffy.

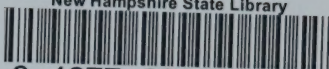
~~—~~ Primary, Summer and fall terms. Mary ^{Couch} Clough, 2 terms; Ada Smith, 2 terms; Ada Smith, 2 terms; Julia Sweet, 2 terms; George Bassett, 2 terms; John Hoey, Agnes Chadwick, Mary Duffy, Emma Duffy, Mabel Faneuf, Louisa Lord, Celia Riel, Alice Sanborn, Hattie Smith, Lydia Smart, Mary Sweatt, John Burpee, Alice Howe, John Ingham, Fred. Willman.

JOHN C. PEARSON,

School Committee, District No. 7.

Fisherville, March 1, 1881.

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